

**A THRILLING 7th EDITION, ONCE AGAIN IN PERSON**

**Montreal, Wednesday May 25, 2022.** Back for a 7th season, the **Stella Musica Festival**, under the leadership of its Artistic Director and founder Katarzyna Musiał, aims to promote the achievements of women in music. This year, the three events of the festival will take place on **Friday, June 3rd at the Kin Expérience** as well as on **Wednesday, June 8 at the Gesù**.

As in past years, this edition brings together exceptionally talented women artists, recognized both for their artistic commitment as well as their innovative creative approaches, during an intimate concert, a round table and a Grand Concert. Women's contributions to the Montreal and Quebec music scene will be highlighted, with performances by the **Fortin-Poirier Duo**, mezzo-soprano **Martina Myskohlid** and pianist **Rebecca Klassen-Wiebe**, **Nina Segalowitz**, the **Stick&Bow** duo, the **Li Kouri Ensemble**, pianist **Katarzyna Musiał** as well as **Fuego Flamenco Fusion**.

Opening the Festival, an **intimate concert** followed by a **round table** on the theme "Access to music for refugees" will take place on **Friday, June 3, at 7 p.m.** The public will have the chance to hear inspiring and resilient women leaders, including **Fakhria Rezaie**, who fled Afghanistan from the Taliban when she was only 7 years old, **Anna Tatsenko**, very active in the Montreal Ukrainian community and our moderator from the Kurdistan region of Iraq, **Boran Zaza**.

The festival's main event, the Grand Concert, will take place on **Wednesday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m.** This musical encounter not only combines various musical styles but also several artforms: among others, works by visual artist Dali Wu will be on display. Inuit artist **Nina Segalowitz** will perform throat singing in the purest tradition of Inuit culture. **Stick&Bow**, "the trailblazing Montreal duo that plays everything from Bach to Radiohead" (CBC Music's *The Intro*), will sweep you off your feet with an eclectic programme featuring works ranging from Bach to Piazzolla. The **Li Kouri Ensemble** will showcase magnificent songs taken from their first album, *Aza*. Pianist **Katarzyna Musiał** will perform three works by Ukrainian composer Valentina Yanovna. To conclude, **Fuego Flamenco Fusion** will offer an outstanding programme combining flamenco and Latin American music.

**PROGRAMMING**

**Friday June 3, 2022 – 7 p.m.:** Intimate Concert and round table  
Kin Expérience (397A, Sainte-Catherine Street West)

- *Intimate Concert.* The **Fortin-Poirier Duo** has devised a program titled "Nuit Blanche", in which the theme of the night is explored in all its variations: doubts, anguish, passion, celebration, love and dreams rub shoulders in works for piano four hands. Compositions by Ravel, Gluck, Fazil Say, "Entre la veille et le sommeil" by Maggie Ayotte (commissioned by the duo), Victor Simon, Alfonso Peduto and Shaun Choo. Canadian-Ukrainian mezzo-soprano **Martina Myskohlid** accompanied by pianist **Rebecca Klassen-Wiebe** will perform "Green Rain" by Violet Archer, "У перетику ходила (U peretyku khodyla) [Surrender your heart to me]" by Ukrainian composer Mykola Lysenko, as well as works by Mozart, Rossini and de Falla;

- *Round Table*. Discussion on the theme “Access to music for refugees”, with panelist **Fakhria Rezaie**, **Anna Tatsenko** and **Boran Zaza**.

**Wednesday June 8, 2022** – 7:30 p.m.: Grand Concert

Théâtre Le Gesù (1200, de Bleury Street)

- Inuit artist **Nina Segalowitz**: throat singing performances.
- **Stick&Bow**: avant-garde duo consisting of **Krystina Marcoux** (marimba) and **Juan Sebastian Delgado** (cello). Works by J.S. Bach, Nina Simone (“Love me or leave me”), Bartók, *Tzigane* (Stéphane Grappelli, arr. Marcoux/Delgado), Piazzolla and Louise Jallu (“À Gennevilliers”).
- **Li Kouri Ensemble**: trio comprising **Li Kouri** (composition, accordion and voice), **Isabelle Gaudreau** (clarinet) and **Laetitia Francoz Lévesque** (violin). This first album features subtle yet hard-hitting compositions which make the listener want to come back for more.
- **Katarzyna Musiał** (piano) performs three works by Ukrainian composer Valentina Yanovna Zhubinskaya: “Meditation,” “On a walk” and “Lullaby.”
- **Fuego Flamenco Fusion** featuring **Katarzyna Musiał** (piano, dance), **Hanser Santos Gómez** (percussions) and **Hugo Larenas** (guitar) offers a one-of-a-kind programme that uniquely combines the tradition of flamenco with Latin American music. Works by Spanish, Cuban, Venezuelan and Brazilian composers, and including some elements of flamenco dance.

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SOURCE:

Alain Ajamian – Festival Stella Musica  
Tel : 514 743-2961 | [info@stellamusica.org](mailto:info@stellamusica.org)